

CLAIMS

I/We claim:

[c1] 1. A method for analysis of a handwriting sample, comprising the steps of:
 creating a digital bit-map of said handwriting sample;
 marking at least first and second points on said bit-map which correspond to selected locations on said handwriting sample;
 and
 comparing said at least first and second points on said bit-map so as to obtain a selected measurement of said handwriting sample.

[c2] 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of creating a digital bit-map comprises:
 forming a digital camera image of said handwriting sample.

[c3] 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of creating a digital bit-map comprises:
 forming a digital scanner image of said handwriting sample.

[c4] 4. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of comparing said points marked on said bit-map comprises comparing said points so as to obtain a measurement of a slant angle of said handwriting sample.

[c5] 5. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of comparing said points marked on said bit-map comprises comparing said points so as to obtain a measurement of a height of said handwriting sample.

[c6] 6. The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
obtaining a plurality of said measurements on said handwriting sample;
tabulating said plurality of measurements in accordance with a predetermined scheme; and
comparing said tabulated measurements with a predetermined standard so as to determine one or more characteristics relating to a person who produced said handwriting sample.

[c7] 7. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of marking said points on said bit map comprises:
marking a plurality of said points in a line which cuts across a selected stroke in said handwriting sample.

[c8] 8. The method of claim 7, wherein the step of comparing said points so as to obtain a selected measurement comprises:
measuring relative darkness at said points in said line across said stroke;
and
translating said measured relative darkness at said points so as to form a two-dimensional display for determining an angle of a writing instrument which formed said stroke.

[c9] 9. The method of claim 8, further comprising the step of:
compiling said two-dimensional displays for a continuous length of said stroke so as to form a three-dimensional image for determining an angle and pressure of said writing instrument which formed said stroke.